THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, a number of areas/activities such as upgradation of stations at major metropolitan cities, establishment of super speciality hospitals, setting up of manufacturing units for rolling stock, infrastructure projects for port connectivity through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and several activities in catering/tourism and hospitality area have been identified for possible execution through public-private partnership route.

Decline in employment through SSIs

2104. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in employment/jobs through Small Scale Industries in NER particularly in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of unemployed youths provided jobs in NER through Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Estimated employment in the registered small scale industries in the North Eastern Region (including Assam) has registered continuous growth as may be seen from the table given below:

Name of State	Estimated employment				
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Arunachal Pradesh	1481	1708	1920	1982	2197
Assam	64623	71017	76795	81551	88585
Manipur	19626	20070	20405	20735	21124
Meghalaya	10734	12039	13611	15880	18087
Mizoram	9061	9850	10760	11770	12722
Nagaland	4967	7003	10227	14046	20361
Sikkim	959	1019	1117	1221	1301
Tripura	11666	12095	12475	11547	11592
Total	123117	134801	147309	158731	175968

Employment in the unregistered SSI sector in the North East Region has also been estimated to go up during this period.